

## Second Conditional

| Condition<br><i>If + Past Simple</i>                                                 | Result<br><i>would = infinitive without to</i>                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| If the weather was good,<br>If you didn't watch so much TV,<br>If they trained more, | we would ('d) go swimming.<br>you would ('d) have more time for sport.<br>they wouldn't lose so many games. |

| Yes/No questions                                                                                     | Short answers                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Would you run a marathon if you had the chance?<br>If you wanted to be fitter, would you join a gym? | Yes, I would./No, I wouldn't.<br>Yes, I would./No, I wouldn't. |

We use the Second Conditional for

- unlikely or impossible situations in the present:  
*If they were taller, they would play in the basketball team.*
- unlikely or impossible situations in the future:  
*If Sydney got the 2016 Olympic Games, I would be very surprised.*
- to give advice  
*If I were you, I'd tell my parents the truth.*

In a conditional sentence, the two parts of the sentence can be in any order. We use a comma when the *if* clause is first.

*If you exercised more, you'd feel healthier.*

= *You'd feel healthier if you exercised more.*

### Wh- questions

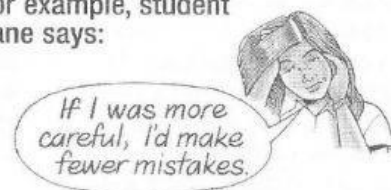
**Where** would you live if you could live anywhere?

If you were an Olympic athlete, **what** sport would you do?

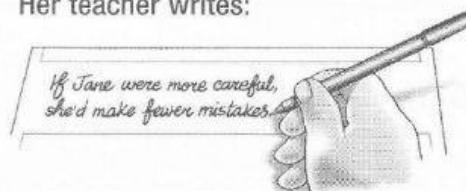
### Mind the trap!

With the verb *be*, we use *was* in informal speech and writing but *were* in formal speaking and writing.

For example, student Jane says:



Her teacher writes:



Complete the Second Conditional sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I'd help (help) you if I had (have) the time.
- 2 If it \_\_\_\_\_ (be) windier, we \_\_\_\_\_ (go) sailing.
- 3 If you \_\_\_\_\_ (do) an extreme sport, which one \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_ (be)?
- 4 I \_\_\_\_\_ (go) surfing every day if I \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in California.
- 5 If you \_\_\_\_\_ (be) better at judo, you \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a black belt.
- 6 If I \_\_\_\_\_ (run) a kilometre, it \_\_\_\_\_ (kill) me.
- 7 If I \_\_\_\_\_ (not live) so far from the mountains, I \_\_\_\_\_ (go) skiing more often.
- 8 Which martial art \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (do) if you \_\_\_\_\_ (have) the time?
- 9 How \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) if you \_\_\_\_\_ (win) an Olympic medal?
- 10 I \_\_\_\_\_ (relax) more if I \_\_\_\_\_ (be) you.